IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A cask comprising:

a basket including a plurality of rectangular plate members ~~capable of absorbing neutrons~~ having a neutron absorbency and alternately [[plied]] piled up so as to continuously extend vertically, the plurality of rectangular plate members each having a plurality of cutting sections for mutually ~~plurality~~ engaging the plurality of rectangular plate members, the rectangular plate members forming a plurality of cells each configured to hold a spent fuel assembly, the basket having a cross section having a plurality of stepped corners;

a barrel main body having a unitary construction which shields γ rays and has an inner cavity having a shape corresponding to an outer shape of the basket such that the inner cavity of the barrel main body ~~and the basket are substantially in close~~ makes direct contact with ~~each other~~ the outer shape of the basket along an entire vertical length of the inner cavity of the barrel main body; and

a neutron shielding body provided in an outer periphery of the barrel main body.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A cask comprising:

a basket including a plurality of rectangular plate members ~~capable of absorbing neutrons~~ having a neutron absorbency and alternately piled up so as to continuously extend vertically, the plurality of rectangular plate members each having a plurality of cutting sections for mutually engaging the plurality of rectangular plate members, the rectangular plate members forming a plurality of cells each configured to hold a spent fuel assembly, the basket having a cross section having a plurality of stepped corners;

a barrel main body having a unitary construction which shields γ rays and has an inner cavity having a shape corresponding to an outer shape of the basket such that the inner cavity

of the barrel main body makes direct contact with the outer shape of the basket along an entire vertical length of the inner cavity of the barrel main body;

a plurality of dummy pipes provided along and [[In]] making direct contact with an outer surface portion of the each of stepped ~~comers~~ corners of the basket, wherein a cavity cross section of the inner cavity corresponds with a [[arose]] cross section of an outer shape formed by the plurality of dummy pipes and the basket [[In]] in contact with each other, and the plurality of dummy pipes are ~~Inserted~~ inserted within the inner cavity together with the basket; and

a neutron shielding body provided in an outer periphery of the barrel main body.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The cask according to claim 3, wherein both ends of each of the plurality of dummy pipe are closed.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The cask according to claim 4, wherein the plurality of dummy pipes each includes a heat conduction medium therein.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): A cask comprising:

a basket having square shaped cross section, wherein a plurality of cells having a neutron absorbing performance and storing spent fuel assemblies are integrally cast;

a barrel main body which shields γ rays and forms an inner side of a cavity in a shape aligning with said basket; and

a neutron shielding body arranged in an outer periphery of said barrel main body,

wherein a spent fuel assembly is stored in each of cells of the basket inserted in said cavity.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The cask according to claim 6, wherein a part within said cavity is formed in a shape aligning with the outer shape of said basket.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The cask according to claim 7, wherein a dummy pipe is further provided, a portion having a surplus thickness of the barrel main body within said

cavity is aligned with said dummy pipe, and said dummy pipe is inserted within the cavity together with the basket in a state of being in contact with said plate-like member.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The cask according to claim 8, wherein both ends of said dummy pipe are further closed.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The cask according to claim 9, wherein a heat conduction medium such as a helium gas or the like is sealed within the dummy pipe having both ends closed.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): A cask wherein an inner side of a cavity in a barrel main body having a neutron shielding body in an outer periphery and shielding γ rays is formed in a shape corresponding to an outer shape of a basket having a square cross sectional shape constituted by a plurality of square pipes having a neutron absorbing performance in a state of inserting the square pipes within the cavity, a hollow dummy pipe having both ends closed is provided, a portion having a surplus thickness of the barrel main body within said cavity is formed in a shape corresponding to said dummy pipe, said dummy pipe is inserted within the cavity together with the basket in a state of being in contact with said square pipe, and a spent fuel assembly is received and stored within each of cells of the basket inserted within said cavity.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The cask according to claim 11, wherein a heat conduction medium such as a helium gas or the like is sealed within the dummy pipe having both ends closed.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The cask according to claim 5, wherein the heat conduction medium in the plurality of dummy pipes comprises a helium gas.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The cask according to claim 3, wherein the plurality of dummy pipes comprise an aluminum alloy containing boron.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A cask comprising:

a basket having a [[aross]] cross section having a plurality of stepped ~~comers:~~ corners; and

a barrel main body having a unitary construction and a cavity having a shape corresponding to an outer shape of the basket such that the cavity of the barrel main body ~~and the basket are substantially in close~~ makes direct contact with ~~each other~~ the outer shape of the basket along an entire vertical length of the inner cavity of the barrel main body.